

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MONTEV 02984 032241Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 2984

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FOR ARA/ECA GRAHAM FROM AMBASSADOR PEZZULLO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, OVIP, UY
SUBJ: PROPOSED MESSAGE PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRESIDENT MENDEZ

FOLLOWING IS SUGGESTED TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT
CARTER TO PRESIDENT MENDEZ. QUOTE

DEAR PRESIDENT MENDEZ:

I AM TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN'S
PRESENCE IN URUGUAY TO SEND YOU THIS PRIVATE PERSONAL
MESSAGE. I WANT ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN'S VISIT TO
YOUR COUNTRY TO BE A CONTINUATION OF THE TRADITIONAL CLOSE
AND FRUITFUL TIES THAT HAVE ALWAYS EXISTED BETWEEN OUR
TWO COUNTRIES. THESE TIES IN PART ARE FOUNDED ON THE
COMMON HISTORY WE SHARE OF A STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE
AND FREEDOM, A HISTORY IN WHICH THE NAMES OF GEORGE
WASHINGTON AND JOSE ARTIGAS HAVE ALWAYS HAD AN HONORED
PLACE. THESE TIES WERE FURTHER STRENGTHENED BY THE
COMMON STRUGGLE OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES DURING THE
SECOND WORLD WAR. ABOVE ALL, THESE TIES ARE BASED
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ON THE COMMON DEMOCRATIC IDEOLOGY WE HAVE SHARED, IN
WHICH THE RIGHT OF THE INDIVIDUAL CITIZEN TO PARTICIPATE
IN THE GOVERNING PRECESS AND THE RIGHT OF THE INDIVIDUAL
CITIZEN TO A JUST REWARD FOR HIS ECONOMIC LABORS HAVE
ALWAYS BEEN RECOGNIZED.

AS YOU ARE AWARE, I FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT THE PRESERVATION

OF HUMAN VALUES AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOM. IT IS AND WILL BE ONE OF THE PILLARS OF UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY DURING MY ADMINISTRATION. MY INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT STEMS FROM MY OWN PERSONAL CONVICTION AND FROM AN HISTORIC COMMITMENT ON THE PART OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY. I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE MINDFUL OF THE DIFFICULTIES YOUR COUNTRY HAS EXPERIENCED IN RECENT YEARS IN DEALING WITH A DANGEROUS INSURGENCY, AND WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THE STRESSES A TERRORIST MOVEMENT PLACES ON THE FABRIC OF ANY SOCIETY. HOWEVER, SURELY WE CAN BOTH AGREE THAT THE TASK AHEAD IS TO COME TO GRIPS WITH THE JUDGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION THAT VIOLATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES HAVE OCCURRED AND CONTINUE TO OCCUR IN YOUR COUNTRY. I AM HOPEFUL THAT OUR WILLINGNEWW TO RECOGNIZE THE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM AND TO DISCUSS IT CANDIDLY CAN LEAD TO THE INITIATION OF A PROCESS OF RESTORING THE TRADITIONAL FREEDOMS URUGUAY WAS NOTED FOR. I CONSIDER IT A GREAT IRONY THAT URUGUAY FINDS ITSELF NUMBERED AMONG THOSE COUNTRIES CHARGED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND HAVE GREAT FAITH THAT YOUR EFFORTS AND THOSE OF YOUR GOVERNMENT CAN QUICKLY REESTABLISH THE ILLUSTRIOUS TRADITION OF YOUR COUNTRY. MR. PRESIDENT, I HOPE YOU TAKE THESE THOUGHTS IN THE SPIRIT IN WHICH THEY ARE OFFERED: THAT OF A TRADITIONALLY CLOSE FRIEND CONCERNED THAT OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP IS CONFIDENTIAL

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BEING ADVERSELY AFFECTED BECAUSE OF URUGUAY'S CURRENT INTERNATIONAL STANDING. AND I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT MY CANDOR SPRINGS FROM A SINCERE DESIRE TO SEE A FULL RESTORATION OF THE CLOSE TIES WHICH HAVE TRADITIONALLY EXISTED BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. I REMAIN RESPECTFULLY YOURS,
PRESIDENT JUMMY CARTER
END QUOTE
PEZZULLO

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 03-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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